Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1(Currently amended). A process for the detection or quantification of eosinophils and basophils, ~~characterised in that it comprises~~ comprising:

bringing a sample, optionally containing said eosinophils or basophils, into contact with an IL-5 anti-receptor (alpha chain) monoclonal antibody which does not interfere with the fixing of IL-5 to its receptor and which does not inhibit the biological activity of IL-5; and

detecting, and optionally quantifying, ~~in order to detect and, if desired, to quantify~~ the eosinophils and basophils in said sample.

2(Currently amended). A process according to claim 1, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the IL-5 anti-receptor monoclonal antibody is an antibody which does not interfere with IgE.

3(Currently amended). A process according to claim 1 or 2, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the IL-5 anti-receptor monoclonal antibody is an antibody which does not interfere with the cell activation of eosinophils or basophils.

4(Currently amended). A process according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 or 2, wherein the detecting step ~~to 3, characterised in that the detection and, if desired, the quantification of eosinophils or basophils~~ uses a flow cytometer or optical scanning cytometer.

5(Currently amended). A process according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 or 2, further comprising ~~to 4, characterised in that, in addition,~~ the sample [[is]] being brought into contact with other monoclonal antibodies directed against other markers of the eosinophil or basophil cell types.

6(Currently amended). A process according to claim 5, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the other monoclonal antibodies are directed against the markers CD3, CD16 and CD19.

7(Currently amended). A process according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 or 2, further comprising, for detecting and optionally quantifying, ~~to 6, characterised in that the detection or quantification of~~ activated basophils ~~is carried out by, in addition,~~ bringing the sample into contact with one or more other monoclonal antibodies directed against basophil activation markers.

8(Currently amended). A process according to claim 7, ~~characterised in that~~ wherein the activation marker is the CD63 antigen.

9(Currently amended). A process according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 or 2, further comprising, for detecting and optionally quantifying activated eosinophils, ~~to 6, characterised in that the detection or quantification of activated eosinophils is carried out by, in addition,~~ bringing the sample into contact with one or more other monoclonal antibodies directed against eosinophil activation markers.

10(Currently amended). A process for the detection and quantification of activated eosinophils according to claim 9,

~~characterised in that~~ wherein the activation marker is the CD69 antigen.

11(Currently amended). An anti-IL-5R antibody which is characterised by:

binding to both eosinophils and basophils;

[[- the]] absence of interference with the fixing of IL-5 to its receptor[[,]];

[[- the]] absence of interference with IgE[[,]];

[[- the]] absence of interference with cell activation of eosinophils or basophils[[,]]; and

[[-the]] absence of inhibition of the biological activity of IL-5.

12(Currently amended). A kit for the detection or quantification of eosinophils and basophils, comprising: ~~containing~~

[[-]] an anti-IL-5R monoclonal antibody according to claim 11 conjugated to a first fluorochrome[[,]]; and

[[-]] a mixture of antibody markers for lymphocytes, monocytes and neutrophils, conjugated to a second fluorochrome.

13(Currently amended). A kit for the detection and quantification of activated eosinophils and basophils, comprising: ~~containing~~

[[-]] an anti-IL-5R monoclonal antibody according to claim 11 conjugated to a first fluorochrome[[,]];

[[-]] a mixture of antibody markers for lymphocytes, monocytes and neutrophils, conjugated to a second fluorochrome; and

[[-]] antibodies directed against activation markers and conjugated to a third fluorochrome.

14(Currently amended). A kit for the detection or quantification of the oxidative activity of eosinophils or basophils, comprising: ~~containing~~

[[-]] an anti-IL-5R monoclonal antibody according to claim 11 conjugated to a first fluorochrome[[,]];

[[-]] a mixture of antibody markers for lymphocytes, monocytes and neutrophils, conjugated to a second fluorochrome[[,]]; and

[[-]] a marker substrate for the oxidative activity of eosinophils or basophils.

15(Currently amended). A kit according to one of claims 12 to 14, which is applied to the study of allergic, parasitic or leukaemic pathologies.

16(Currently amended). A process~~, antibody or kit~~ according to claim 1 or 2, wherein ~~one of claims 1 to 15, characterised in that~~ the IL-5 anti-receptor monoclonal antibody is an antibody of the IgG1 type, the corresponding hybridoma of which was ~~lodged~~ deposited with the Collection Nationale de Culture de Micro-organismes (CNCM) under accession no. ~~1 2068~~ I-2068.

17(New). A kit according to one of claims 12 to 14, wherein the IL-5 anti-receptor monoclonal antibody is an antibody of the IgG1 type, the corresponding hybridoma of which was deposited with the Collection Nationale de Culture de Micro-organismes (CNCM) under accession no. I-2068.

18(New). An IL-15 anti-receptor monoclonal antibody produced by the hybridoma deposited with the Collection Nationale de Culture de Micro-organismes (CNCM) under accession no. I-2068.